

AGENDA

CONNECTICUT BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF EMBALMERS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at 9:30 AM

Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT
Conference F – Second Floor

CALL TO ORDER

I. MINUTES

Review and approval of the minutes from the November 15, 2007 meeting.

II. CHAIR UPDATES/CORRESPONDENCE

III. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATES

Investigations Update

Gary Griffin, Investigations Supervisor, DPH

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Petteway Funeral Home – Petition No. 2006-0120-056-002
Respondent's Motion to Revoke Summary Suspension Order

B. Scheduled Hearing Dates
Valerie Jones – Petition No. 2005-0802-030-011

IV. LEGAL OFFICE BUSINESS

Consent Order Orders Presented by Stanley Peck, Section Chief, Legal Office, DPH

- A. SCI CT Funeral Service d/b/a Leo Gallagher & Sons Funeral Home
Petition No. 2005-0630-056-010
- B. SCI CT Funeral Service d/b/a Leo Gallagher & Sons Funeral Home
Petition No. 2005-1209-056-021
- C. Thomas M. Gallagher, Embalmer - Petition No. 2005-0630-030-009
- D. Michelle Balzano, Embalmer - Petition No. 2005-1214-056-016
- E. Jonathan White, Embalmer - Petition No. 2005-1214-030-020

ADJOURN

The following minutes are draft minutes which are subject to revision and which have not yet been adopted by the Board.

The **Connecticut Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors** held a meeting on November 15, 2007 at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Conference Room 2F, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Celia Pinzi, Embalmer - Chairperson
Peter Hansen, Embalmer
Daniel P. Jowdy, Embalmer

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: James Donohue
John B. Sterry

ALSO PRESENT: Jeffrey A. Kardys, Board Liaison
Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief, Department of Public Health
Stephen Carragher, Health Program Supervisor, DPH
Gary Griffin, DPH
Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, DPH
Jane Comerford, Assistant Attorney General

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Chairperson Celia Pinzi called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

I. MINUTES

The minutes from the September 18, 2007 meetings were reviewed. Mr. Hansen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jowdy, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

II. CHAIR UPDATES/CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from the Catholic Cemeteries Association was reviewed. The letter to Mausoleum Space Owners advises them that embalming is a requirement for all bodies entombed in mausoleums. In addition, the association has been informing funeral homes in the New Haven area that they will not entomb a body unless embalming has been performed. The association is also requiring funeral directors to sign a document attesting to the embalming. Kathleen Boulware, Practiotner Investigation Unit, DPH stated that the department does not have jurisdiction over cemeteries and/or any regulations they may enact.

John Casio, Connecticut Funeral Directors Association (CFDA) commented that CFDA attempted to speak with association concerning this issue, but was unsuccessful.

A letter was received from “Concerned Funeral Directors” regarding a policy at Briarwood College requiring mortuary science students to obtain employment at funeral homes for the purpose of gaining experience in embalming of bodies. The concern is that students are involved in the embalming process without consent of the families of decedents. The Board will refer this matter to the Department of Public Health for review.

III. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATES

Ms. Boulware discussed the Continuing Education Program provided at Briarwood College on November 13, 2007.

Investigations Update

Gary Griffin, Investigation Supervisor, Department of Public Health reported that there are 11 cases currently in various stages of investigation by the Department. 11 additional cases have been referred to the Department's Legal Office for further review.

The Board expressed its frustration that the matters involving SCI CT Funeral Service, which were brought before the Board in January 2007 and rejected, have not come back for review. The Board commented that the issues involved are serious and require action. Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief, Practitioner Licensing and Investigation, DPH reported that Consent Orders and/or Statements of Charges in these matters will be presented to the Board at the next meeting.

IV. LEGAL OFFICE BUSINESS

William J. Marchand – Petition No. 2006-0329-030-004

Ellen Shanley, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in this matter. Mr. Marchand was present but not represented.

Ms. Shanley and Mr. Marchand provided a synopsis of the issues involved in this matter.

Mr. Marchand informed that Board that he is in agreement with Consent Order and understands that his license will be disciplined.

Ms. Pinzi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hansen, to approve the Consent Order.

Following discussion Ms. Pinzi and Mr. Hansen voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Jowdy was opposed. The motion passed. Ms. Pinzi signed the Order.

V. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Mary Vincent, Vincent Funeral Homes, Inc., Simsbury, Connecticut inquired as to a complaint she filed with the Department of Public Health concerning Carmon Funeral Home and the serving of food and beverage. Kathleen Boulware, DPH, Practitioner Investigation Unit reported that the Department is reviewing the matter.

Mr. Jowdy made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pinzi, requesting that the Department of Public Health seek a formal opinion from the Office of the Attorney General as to whether the serving of food and beverage in funeral homes is allowed by statute. Following discussion Mr. Jowdy withdrew his motion.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Sterry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hansen, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Celia Pinzi, Chairperson
Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors